

Amdr. Dated September 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

Customer No.: 27405

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 1, 5, 14, and 15 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-4, 6-10, 16-23, and 25-27 are amended. Claims 2-4, 6-13, and 16-28 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103:

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11-15, and 17-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Gilcher et al. or Narwick et al., and further in view of Kline-Schoder et al. This rejection is moot with respect to claims 1, 5, 14, and 15 due to the cancellation of these claims. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as to amended claims 2-4, 8, 9, 11-13, and 17-28.

Claims 2-4, 8, 9, 11-13 and 17-28 now depend from amended claims 6 and 16, respectively. The Examiner states that claims 6 and 16 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Since claims 2-4, 8, 9, 11-13 and 17-28 now depend from claims 6 and 16, respectively, they are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 6 and 16. Withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of claims 2-4, 8, 9, 11-13 and 17-28 is thus respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

The Examiner objected to claims 6, 7, 10, and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but states that these claims "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." In response, Applicant rewrote claims 6, 7, and 16 in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Claim 10 was rewritten to depend from claim 6. Withdrawal of this objection and allowance of claims 6, 7, 10, and 16 is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). In addition, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

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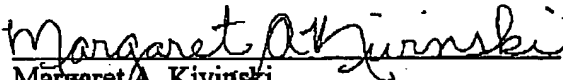
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If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Irvine, California telephone number (949) 757-1999 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1769.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 15, 2005


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